CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Declarative Knowledge): Students will demonstrate knowledge of major texts, in particular the Hebrew Bible and the Talmud, and major topics in Jewish history such as Jewish history in Temple times; Medieval Jewish history; the emancipation of the Jews in modern times; religious reform movements from Hasidism to Reconstructionism; the Holocaust; Zionism and the state of Israel; the rise of American Jewry.

In JST 2000 (Introduction to Jewish Studies) and JST 4701 (The Holocaust), students will demonstrate knowledge of major texts and topics in Jewish history through satisfactory performance on in-class exams that test their grasp of essential facts, concepts, and events.

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Research Skills). Students will develop a literature review, identify an appropriate research question, and carry out research on a topic relevant to Jewish Studies.

In one or more written assignments in both JST 2000 and JST 4701, students will demonstrate an appropriate level of skill in research. They will be evaluated on their mastery of the necessary research and bibliographic skills to use both shelved and online resources to develop a literature review that reflects the current state of theorizing about and scholarship in the field. They will be evaluated on the degree to which they are able to assess the relative quality and reliability of different sources of information and argument. They will be evaluated on whether they are able to collect, organize and interpret information relevant to their research topic and to cite it appropriately.

CRITICAL THINKING (Analytical Skills): Students will engage in critical/reflective analysis and interpretation of materials derived from their independent research.
In one or more written assignments in both JST 2000 and JST 4701, students will demonstrate an appropriate level of skill in critical thinking. They will be evaluated on how this written work demonstrates the following critical thinking skills: (a) the ability to critically assess the major theses of complex written works and situate those works within their intellectual context in Jewish Studies; (b) the ability to analyze competing perspectives on the same phenomenon or work; (c) the ability to develop a clear, original and internally consistent thesis supported by argument and evidence.

COMMUNICATION (Written Communication): Students will produce well-organized, well-conceptualized and grammatically correct writing.

In one or more written assignments in both JST 2000 and JST 4701, students will demonstrate an appropriate level of skill in written communication. They also will be evaluated on the degree to which they are able to produce written work that is grammatically and syntactically correct, well organized, and appropriately formatted. The work must conform to the bibliographic and citation standards of the field.

COMMUNICATION (Oral Communication): Students will demonstrate an intermediate level of oral communication skills in Hebrew.

Students will be evaluated on their oral communication skills through oral participation, presentation and examination in HBR 2204 (Intermediate Hebrew Language and Culture II). Students who successfully complete HBR 2204 will be able to deliver presentations and engage in critical discussions of pertinent issues. In so doing, they will be able to employ appropriate correct verb tenses and moods, correct subject-verb agreement, and manipulate the appropriate sequence of tenses required in critical debate. They will demonstrate an appropriate level of vocabulary acquisition.